

University of Puerto Rico at Humacao

## Unit 8: Alien Worlds

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### **Think and Discuss**

1. Which do you think is more interesting-the ocean or space? Why?

I think that space is more interesting than the ocean because personally I'm much more impressed by the moon, the stars and that even in the distance we can see them. Besides seeing the variety of characteristics of the different planets that are there.

2. Do you think it's more useful to explore the ocean or space? Why?

I think it is more useful to explore the ocean since it is easier to get to, it has different curiosities that can be investigated, plus we would know what are facing.

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### **Explore the theme**

A.

1. The Milky Way is our home. What we know about it is that it has a hundreds of billions of stars and our solar system is located in it. It is also a single galaxy and is small compared to the universe.
2. We live in a part of the galaxy called the Orion Arm where our solar system is located.
3. Viewed from Earth, the Milky Way is a band of cloudy light that stretches across the sky.

B.

- Our planet is called Earth.
- Earth has just a single moon, while Jupiter has 67.
- The sun is a star.

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**Preparing to read**

A.

1. Discovered
2. Reach
3. Excited
4. Suitable
5. Nearest
6. Distance
7. Life

B.

1. The biggest planet in the solar system is Jupiter.
2. Venus is nearer to the sun than Mars.
3. I think that the living conditions on Pluto are not adequate since it is a planet in the middle of nowhere, with no maintenance and with no knowledge of what exactly is on it and what it is composed of.

C. The first paragraph of the reading asks us if there will be other planets like Earth and if humans will be able to live there one day. The reality is that I think that although there may be similar planets, they will not be like planet Earth as there is no way they will be identical. On the other hand, I think that maybe there could be inhabited but research would have to be done first to make sure that it is habitable and safe for life.

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**Understanding the reading**

A.

1. E
2. C
3. B
4. D
5. F

B.

1. B
2. A
3. B

C.

- The system contains seven exoplanets that are similar to Earth.
- The planets are very close to the star, but Trappist-1 is very cooler compared to other stars.
- The planets may have water and therefore possibly life.

D.

1. Not speculation
2. Speculation
3. Not speculation
4. Speculation
5. Speculation

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**Developing reading skills**

A.

- p. 133 para B

- **Main idea:** astronomers use new technology to find exoplanets
- **Detail:** so far, found more than 3,500
- **Detail:** some may be like Earth

- p. 134 para E

- **Main idea:** main problem with traveling to an exoplanet is distance
- **Detail:** nearest star system is 4.3 light-years away
- **Detail:** traveling there would take thousands years

B.

- **Main idea:** one day we might be able to travel to another star system
- **Detail:** new technology will let us reach the nearest star in a few decades
- **Detail:** we can achieve some form of interstellar.

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### **Before Viewing**

A.

People are diving in an underwater cave called Diepolder Cave and it is located in Florida. I think that by exploring it they can learn about the creatures and marine life that live in it, what and how they are formed and even if there is any past in them.

B.

1. Three-dimensional
2. Current
3. Labyrinth
4. Bounces

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C.

1. When the caves were first explored explorers found the bones of land animals that lived many years ago and items belonging to humans.
2. What was found tells explorers that the area was above sea level years ago. As it filled with water it kept the bones of animals and other things safe for many years.

### **While Viewing**

A. c

B.

1. Dangerous
2. 300
3. Sand
4. Rope
5. Bounces
6. current

### **After Viewing**

A. It would be extremely interesting to explore the underwater caves so that's why I would do it, I would gain the curiosity to learn and meet different species as well as discover and observe in detail by myself.

B. The challenges of exploring underwater caves are similar to those of exploring space as both are dangerous activities that can end badly. They are also expensive jobs to undertake. Moreover, not everyone has the courage to undertake them.

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### **Preparing to read**

A.

1. Mystery
2. Vehicle
3. Covers
4. Deep

B.

1. Variety
2. Beginning
3. Illness
4. Complete

C.

1. Fish    seahorses    octopus
2. Boat   submarines   kayak
3. Cold   asthma        sinusitis

D.

I think it is useful to explore the deep parts of the ocean because in it we can discover certain things about our past and also study species that live there. It opens the way to knowledge and history that we should know.

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### Understanding the reading

A. A

B. (Paras A and B) Oceans= mystery  
cover 71 percent of Earth  
expl'd 5 percent  
we know more about some areas of Mars

(Paras C and D) New Tech → explore more  
vehicle called DeepSee  
went to seamounts near Costa Rica

(Paras E and F) Deepest place in ocean= Mariana Trench in the Pacific Ocean  
2012: James Cameron explored alone  
he took photos and video and collected underwater samples  
deep-sea exploration help us understand how life on our planet began  
also learn about how underwater earthquakes cause tsunamis

C.

1. Imagined
2. Hidden
3. Discoveries

D.

1. What makes explorers do research underwater research underwater is to learn where life comes from, to find and study marine species and to learn new things.
2. Their work is useful because they let us know things about our past that we did not know, such as where life comes from. They also discover species that in some way could save our life so we all benefit from this wonderful work they do.

E. I think ocean exploration is more interesting.

Reason 1: We can discover where life on the planet comes from.

Reason 2: Different species can be described that can help fight diseases in humans because of the chemicals they possess.



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**Writing**

**Exploring written English**

A.

1. Don't think
2. Don't think
3. Don't believe
4. Don't believe
5. In my opinion, don't be
6. In my opinion, don't have

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B.

1. I don't think studying the ocean is a waste of time and money.
2. I don't believe life forms other planets are looking for us.
3. In my opinion people don't live on an exoplanet 100 years from now.

C.

1. I think most people will live in the future in tall apartment buildings.
2. Cities like New York and Beijing might be even more crowded.
3. People might never need to leave their apartment building.
4. In my opinion most people will work from home.

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D.

1. Might
2. May
3. will
4. may
5. will

**Editing practice**

1. Robots might be replaced doctors someday.
2. I think people may having computers inside their bodies.
3. Someday, we may to build homes underground.
4. I believe new telescopes may finding many more exoplanets in the future.
5. We might be able to see Saturn in the sky tonight. It depends if the skies are clear.

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### Writing task

Traveling into space and exploring the ocean can be as interesting as it is expensive. The reality of the case is that too much money is spent on it, something that beyond being curious is not a priority when it comes to distributing capital. We have situations such as health, hunger and education that deserve more importance and relevance as far as our lives are concerned. Going into space and researching in the ocean can clear up many doubts and helps to discover but it will not change what happens on planet Earth, where we currently reside. How necessary is it to see the stars, planets, and underwater caves up close when you have people dying and going through needs that can be covered with the money invested in that? That is where we see the priorities that different countries set for their people.

I think exploring is an investment, a job and in a way an extreme sport but it does not compare to other pillars of human life. We do not live by research, although in some aspects it helps us. Everything has its importance; everything has its purpose but there are things that should not take precedence over others. Besides, we can carry out explorations without spending so much on a rocket or an underwater vehicle, and adequate budget should be established so as not to eliminate it altogether and at the same time not to spend too much on it. It is a matter of visualizing priorities and needs. We should not spend so much money on something that at the end of the day is so dangerous that it can cost us our lives.

## Unit review

1. Two phrases that can be used to introduce your opinion are I believe, or I think.
2. People studying the deepest parts of our oceans can learn about the species that live there, how they can help us fight disease and how underwater earthquakes cause tsunamis.

3.

### Reading 1:

- Discover
- Life
- Distance
- Near
- Single
- Excited
- Planet
- Star

### Reading 2:

- Beginning
- Deep
- Variety
- Complete
- Illness
- Vehicle
- Cover
- Mystery